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offer of any ground upon which to distinguish them. Rarely (as in secs. 523, 1291) we get a brief, pleasant mention of the author's views; but when (in section 1032) we are referred to a "discussion" of the effect of fraud on the avoidance of a contract, we find only a dry statement of some decisions. The book may, therefore, be contrasted, to its disadvantage, with those which do attempt to explain the law. It is nevertheless good of its kind, and a monument of hard, conscientious, in its way fruitful labor. It is no contribution to the advancement of the law, but it ought to be of assistance to any practising lawyer. R. W. H.

THE MARK IN EUROPE AND AMERICA. A Review of the Discussion on Early English Land Tenure. By Enoch A. Bryan, A.M., President of Vincennes University, Indiana. Boston: Ginn & Co., 1893, pp. vi, 164.

This little book, the author says in the preface, was written during a year of rest from his regular duties and while investigating the subject at Harvard University. It is an examination of the theory of the Germanic mark and of the earlier and later evidence adduced in support of that theory. The author calls attention to the fact that the advocates of State ownership of land look upon the theory of the mark as affording an historical basis for their scheme, and that it may in the future play an important part in practical politics. The review of the evidence is impartial, but President Bryan seems on the whole disposed to agree with such destructive critics as Fustel de Coulanges and Seebohm in attributing a comparatively small influence to the mark in the development of our present institutions. The book is pleasantly written in a simple style, and will put the general reader in possession of the principal facts and the different views relating to the mark. It contains an index and a list of the authorities referred to. G. R.

COMPARATIVE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW. An Analysis of the Administrative Systems, National and Local, of the United States, England, France, and Germany. By Frank J. Goodnow, A.M., LL.B. 2 vols. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1893. For sale by W. B. Clarke & Co.

The author has done a great service to jurists. His definition of the subject as "that part of the public law which governs the organization and action of the administrative power in the government" is sufficient to indicate its importance.

As a supplement to constitutional law, the book is very valuable for its analysis, classification, and historical summary, and not the less so from the fact that it is purely empirical rather than speculative.

Professor Goodnow has scientifically distinguished his subject from other closely related branches of the law, and points out that a recognition of this distinction would have prevented such a decision as that in the Dartmouth College Case. A chapter particularly thoughtful is that which contains an examination into the nature of the powers inherent in each department of government; but the main purpose of the book, the comparison of the administrative systems of the four countries, is what constitutes its chief merit. C. P. H.